

## **NCSBN FY2020-2022 Research Agenda (26 Projects)**

### **Introduction**

The goal of the research department at NCSBN is to advance the science of nursing regulation; generate valid, and reliable evidence that assists BONs in policy and decision-making; and heighten the safety and protection of the public.

The NCSBN research agenda aligns with NCSBN's strategic plan, mission and vision and describes the broad areas of regulation that NCSBN wishes to focus on,

effectiveness of the complaint intake, investigative and reporting processes of each

**Pre-licensure Nursing Program Database.** One outcome of the *Nursing Education Metrics and Outcomes Study* was the development of a data collection tool for BON annual reports. This tool, when implemented by BONs will produce consistent and uniform data collection from nursing education programs throughout the US. The plan is for the data to be entered into a central nursing education database for comprehensive analysis and understanding of trends and the performance of pre-licensure programs.

**Simulation Utilization Growth:** Secondary data review of state laws & statutes to see how regulation of the use of simulation in nursing education programs has changed since 2014. This is a follow-up to a baseline study conducted just prior to the landmark 2015 Simulation Study.

**Nursing Education Program COVID-19 Cohort Study:** Nationwide longitudinal study of nursing education programs during the COVID-19 pandemic.

more difficulties maintaining their collaborative agreement, and often resort to constructing their own agreements. In addition, more chart reviews, and higher fees are often assessed to APRNs in HPSA counties, relative to those in non-HPSA areas.

**Nurse Practitioners Expanded Access to Health Care for Medicare Beneficiaries, Particularly in Rural Areas.** This study provides a descriptive first look at primary care accessibility and utilization

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supply staffing ratios. The NLC and its ability to increase nurse mobility may be the answer. NCSBN is partnering with Dr. Aiken and the team at the University of Pennsylvania to study these phenomena.

**Staff Ratios, Nurse Experience, Patient Safety/Access, and COVID-19:** A continuation of NCSBN's partnership with Dr. Linda Aiken (University of Pennsylvania) examining the effects of staffing ratios and license portability in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**The Multistate License.** The NLC Commission has requested NCSBN conduct a study about the NLC, specifically focusing on how nurses use their multistate license (MSL) and their satisfaction with it. Four questions, requested by the commission, pertaining to nurses and the MSL, have been added to the 2020 National Nursing Workforce Survey.

### **Additional Projects related to Licensure, Public Protection, and the Mission and Vision of NCSBN**

#### *Nursing Workforce*

*Increased global leadership in regulation will require accurate workforce data at state and national levels. NCSBN will continue to provide nursing regulatory bodies and stakeholders with high quality data that can be used for research, workforce planning, understanding of workforce trends and enhanced communication of workforce needs between jurisdictions.*

**National Nursing Workforce Survey.** Every other year, NCSBN conducts the national nursing workforce survey of nurses in the U.S. This is currently the primary source for national supply-side data and is the only national survey specifically focused on nurses including LPN/VNs. The next National Nursing Workforce Study is targeted to begin in January 2020 and again in 2022 in collaboration with the National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers.

**Nursing Workforce Data Sub-Analyses will include papers on the following:**

- What is the general makeup of the APRN workforce in terms of diversity, types of settings and location of services in 2020?
- Where are nurses working? What are the shortage areas? These questions can be explored through the development of population heat maps.
- Do higher education and licensure requirements affect the diversity of the workforce?
- What are the faculty workforce trends?
- What are the primary work settings, including telehealth, for the nursing workforce in 2020?
- How do individual state workforce supply data compare to data from the 2020 National Nursing Workforce Survey?

**COVID-19 Nurse Workforce Tracking:** NCSBN's research department is engaged in ongoing longitudinal tracking of COVID-19 nurse infection and death rates. This tracking also broadly captures general state-level metrics surrounding confirmed cases and deaths from the onset of the pandemic.

#### *Patient Safety*



